



## Dunn and Pierce County Cooperative Extension AmeriCorps\*VISTA

### **Program Overview:**

AmeriCorps\*VISTA's mission is to create and expand programs that ultimately help bring low-income people and communities out of poverty. The Dunn-Pierce County AmeriCorps\*VISTA will serve as a member of Dunn and Pierce Counties UW-Extension educator teams and will work to support projects in both counties. In Dunn County, the VISTA member will work with the Family Living Educator and community partners to increase capacity and build partnerships for the Financial Coaching, Love and Logic, and Strengthening Families programs. The member will provide additional support for the Parenting Team and 4-H Youth Development program. In Pierce County the VISTA will conduct public outreach in the eastern portion of Pierce County and in Pepin County to build the 4-H volunteer network; build new partnerships and secure resources that support the establishment of 4-H afterschool programs; and broaden 4-H club work to reach youth in limited resource families. The VISTA volunteer will also work to support district-wide initiatives, primarily marketing efforts to better connect citizens with Extension's non-formal community-based educational programs and resources.

### **Term of Service:**

- Pre-service orientation: June 16-19, 2009 in Indianapolis
- Service begins June 20, 2009 and ends June 19, 2010

### **Position Responsibilities:**

- Serve as a member of the Dunn and Pierce County UW-Extension educator teams
- Develop a volunteer base for the financial coach program in Dunn Co
- Build community partnerships for current parenting programs in Dunn Co
- Research new programs related to mental health for potential development in Dunn Co
- Work with the Dunn County Partnership for Youth's Parenting Team to advance the work and vision of the team
- Work with the 4-H youth development program to expand the reach of the program
- Build sustainable funding streams for 4-H afterschool initiatives
- Develop a marketing campaign to increase and retain volunteer involvement
- Communicate with school parent-teacher groups and administration to organize and strengthen training programs between the schools and Pierce County UW-Extension
- Establish local business sponsorship for internet safety mentoring program and service learning projects
- Prepare and deliver reports to the county government officials and other community stakeholders as requested by the Dunn and Pierce County UW-Extension department heads
- Contribute to Cooperative Extension Western District priority initiatives
- Participate in VISTA orientation and professional development, and additional in-service training as needed

### **Required Qualifications:**

- Minimum age 18
- Excellent organizational skills including the ability to coordinate program details and organize workloads
- Competence working with Microsoft Office programs and the internet
- Ability to work in a context of individual and cultural differences

An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX requirements.

- Ability to schedule evening and some weekend work as a regular part of position duties
- Transportation adequate to fulfill positions responsibilities
- Ability to communicate ideas effectively verbally, in writing, and through educational technology to both youth and adults
- Commitment to a team work environment

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Some higher education or a college degree
- Volunteer or paid experience working with people from culturally diverse groups
- Experience with volunteer management
- Experience with building community partnerships
- Experience with resource development
- Experience in program marketing

**Direct Supervisors:**

Dunn County: Kristen Bruder, Dunn County Family Living Educator  
 University of Wisconsin-Extension  
 kbruder@co.dunn.wi.us  
 715-232-1636

Pierce County: Frank Ginther, 4-H Youth Development Agent  
 University of Wisconsin-Extension  
[francis.ginther@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:francis.ginther@ces.uwex.edu)  
 715-273-6781

**Office Location:**

This position will work in both the Dunn and Pierce County UW-Extension Offices.  
 Dunn County: Dunn Co Government Center, 800 Wilson Ave, Room 330, Menomonie, WI  
 Pierce County: Pierce County Office Building, 412 W Kinne, Ellsworth WI

**Remuneration:**

- The AmeriCorps\*VISTA is a volunteer position. The volunteer will receive a living stipend of \$833 per month. Direct deposit of stipend into member's bank account is required
- If service is successfully completed, the volunteer will their choice of a \$4,725 Education Award or a \$1,200 post-service stipend
- Health coverage (for VISTA member only; not available for dependents)
- Child care benefits for qualified members
- Ten days of personal leave and ten days of medical leave
- Travel and approved job-related expense reimbursement
- Professional development opportunities

**To Apply:**

Applications are accepted on-line. Go to [www.americorps.gov/vista](http://www.americorps.gov/vista) where you will be asked to create a "My AmeriCorps" account and you will be able to complete an on-line application. Apply to the position titled: "Dunn and Pierce County UW-Extension".